

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: :

Elizabeth Bates *et al.* :

For Patent: Monocyte-Derived Nucleic :
 Acids and Related :
 Compositions and Methods :

Serial No.: 10/780,043 :

Filed: February 17, 2004 :

Examiner: Dahle, Chun Wu

Group Art Unit: 1644

Date: January 13, 2009

Schering-Plough Corporation
Kenilworth, New Jersey 07033

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION
AND RESPONSE TO ADVISORY ACTION

Sir:

Applicants hereby are filing a Request for Continued Examination ("RCE") in connection with the above-referenced application. This RCE is filed in response to the advisory action mailed October 28, 2008. The advisory action was in response to applicants' reply filed September 24, 2008, which was not entered by the Examiner. Applicants are resubmitting the same reply as part of this RCE.

A Final Office Action in this application was mailed on August 14, 2008. Applicants are requesting herewith a two-month extension of time. The Commissioner is authorized to charge the required fee to Deposit Account No. 19-0365. Accordingly, the time to file this response and RCE has been extended to January 14, 2009, and these papers are timely filed.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 3.